



MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

April-June, 2009, Vol. 19 No. 2

Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	\$165	\$65	\$140	\$185	\$125	3,173 Int. - MBF	7*
Red oak (group)	\$165	\$105	\$150	\$135	\$135	1,586 Int. - MBF	6*
S Yellow Pine	\$75	\$70	\$75	\$80	\$80	14 Int. - MBF	2
White oak (group)	\$175	\$160	\$160	\$125	\$85	150 Int. - MBF	4
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	\$420	\$420	\$420	\$295	\$150	1 Int. - MBF	1

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	\$165	\$65	\$145	\$120	-	921 Int. - MBF	3
S Yellow Pine	\$75	\$70	\$75	-	-	14 Int. - MBF	2
Stave Logs							
White oak (group)	\$420	\$420	\$420	-	-	1 Int. - MBF	1

Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	\$165	\$150	\$150	\$130	-	1,105 Int. - MBF	2
Red oak (group)	\$165	\$165	\$165	\$135	-	6 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	\$175	\$175	\$175	-	-	5 Int. - MBF	1

Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Oak (mixed species)	\$125	\$90	\$120	\$215	\$130	1,147 Int. - MBF	2*
Red oak (group)	\$160	\$105	\$150	\$135	\$175	1,580 Int. - MBF	5*
White oak (group)	\$160	\$160	\$160	\$115	\$165	146 Int. - MBF	3

Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed “# of Rpts.” to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. (“# of Rpts.” refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼” MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 14 timber sales containing 5,247 MBF located throughout the state. * **Note that several of these sales were salvage sales from the May 8th storm.**

Editor’s Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: www.missouriforesters.com or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website <http://mdc.mo.gov/landown/> and clicking on the “Conservation Assistance Contractors” link.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A “sale” often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the “# of Rpts.” (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼” MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

News from Missouri

This past quarter has been full of challenges for forest land-owners and the forest products industry. The major challenge has been the economy and the ability to sell trees for a respectable price. Another issue was a storm event on May 8, 2009 that blew down many acres of trees in southern Missouri.

The economy has really been hurting the forest products industry. I have talked to several sawmills that have either laid off employees or simply shut the mill down for period of time. I estimate that the industry has slowed by at least 30% from last year's outputs. Several mill owners told me they were selling their number 2 and 3 common lumber for below cost. These mills also mentioned that the only good markets were railroad ties and white oak staves.

On May 8, 2009 a wind storm event that started in Kansas really caused havoc in southern Missouri. This storm spawned tornadoes, thunderstorms and extreme straight lined winds (90 mph) over a large area. The Missouri Department of Conservation estimates the damage at 204 million board feet on 113,000 acres. The three heaviest damaged counties are Reynolds (28,351 acres), Madison (17,854 acres), and Shannon (10,944 acres). Private forest landowners' forest damage is estimated at 68,102 acres, and public forest lands estimated at 45,203 acres.

The storm event has started a large effort to salvage wind thrown trees. Landowners and loggers are working together to

cut trees that were uprooted and broken. The Missouri Department of Conservation in the affected area has temporarily put on hold its normal forest management activities and begun focusing on salvaging wind thrown trees. Several salvage sales have already been let out for contract. These sales are focusing first on areas that need to be cleaned up for public use and fire prevention.

One common question that I have been hearing from land-owners is "*why am I getting such a low bid on my wind thrown trees?*" The short answer is that a logger's production goes down by about 30% due to the dangerous and dirty tree cutting conditions. Most of the trees have tipped over and the lower stem is in contact with the ground which causes loggers to cut the tree off higher from the root ball than normal – this cut usually dulls the saw almost every time it is made. Another hazard is trees are under pressure and can injure the log cutter when the top is cut.

My experience with cutting wind damaged trees wasn't enjoyable. I went as far as to threaten to quit my job if my dad ever decided to purchase another timber sale of wind thrown trees!

If you have any questions concerning the forest products industry you can give me a call. John Tuttle (573) 522-4115 ext 3304.

Market Indicators

Economic conditions such as lower manufacturing activity and higher unemployment have tarnished hope that building construction would revive quickly

from its three year recession. The global breadth of the current downturn has reduced expectations for improved international trade and investments as well. Even lower energy prices have lost their "silver lining" status as oil, gasoline and diesel prices began to creep upwards at the end of the quarter.

According to *TimberMart South*, lumber prices, which some thought could go no lower, have gone lower. Panel prices were relatively flat, near historically low levels. Curtailments and shut downs abounded in building products. In addition, this quarter showed the effects of stresses at work on pulp and paper manufacturers that led to dramatic production cuts the middle of last quarter. Curtailments and shut downs now abound in pulp and paper products as well.

Sawtimber markets are so bad that this quarter's delivered prices look like last year's stumpage prices.

Source: TimberMart South

Drought Stress in Trees

Drought and high temperatures are a one-two punch to trees. Trees exhale moisture from their leaves in a process called transpiration. As temperatures climb, transpiration kicks into overdrive. During a drought, there isn't enough water in the soil to replenish the water lost. When this happens, trees adopt survival strategies that can stress and weaken them.

If Mother Nature doesn't provide at least an inch or two of rain each month, you can help your trees by watering. While

frequent, light watering is sufficient for lawns and vegetable gardens, trees aren't carrots and their moisture needs are different.

Trees need a slow, thorough soaking at least once a month. Most water is absorbed by roots in the top 6-12 inches of soil. These water-gathering roots extend outward from the trunk in all directions at relatively the same distance as twice the height of the tree. However, you can concentrate your watering from the trunk out to the tips of the tree's branches. This critical piece of real estate is called the *dripline*.



There are several methods you can use to give your tree a drink.

One is to turn your garden hose on a slow trickle and leave it in different zones within the dripline until each is soaked. Another method is to spiral a soaker hose out from the trunk. Maintain a 2-foot spacing between each successive coil, and be sure to extend the spiral out to the tips of the branches. To test if enough water is reaching the roots, push a piece of re-bar down into the soil. If you can penetrate 6-12 inches, you've probably provided adequate water.

Some trees need a little more TLC during a drought. Keep a close eye on drought-sensitive species such as magnolias, Japanese maples, dogwoods, beeches, tulip trees and birches. Also pay close attention to container plants and newly planted trees. Because they haven't had time to establish extensive root systems, they are more vulnerable to periods of high temperatures and low rainfall.

Last, don't forget to mulch. Mulch is any tree's best friend.

Besides minimizing evaporation of soil moisture and limiting rainwater runoff, mulch also protects the tree from mower and weed trimmer damage. Apply 2-4 inches of organic mulch around the root zone, taking care to keep it off the trunk.

With a slow, thorough soaking at least once a month and a little bit of mulch, the only worry you'll have with your trees is deciding which ones to tie your hammock under.

How healthy are your trees?

Missouri's trees and forests have always been important to us. Once covering 70 percent of our state, trees continue to provide us with countless public and private benefits.

Whether they provide your means of living, lend beauty to your place of recreation or forge the character of your neighborhood, trees cannot be taken for granted. Just like us, they are susceptible to factors of disease, pollution and age. To continue enjoying its many benefits, forest health must be promoted.

Keeping an eye on trees and forests is a task that cannot be met by a single agency or group. In Missouri, volunteers are always known to rise to a challenge, and this time, the challenge is trees. You are invited to participate in a valuable statewide volunteer forestry project.

The *Missouri Forestkeepers Network* is an opportunity for all Missourians – urban and rural – to get involved in understanding and gaining important information about the condition of trees and

forests. By joining the network, you play an essential role in the future of Missouri's trees and forests. Join us. Together, we can foster a state of forest health for generations to come. Here's how...

Forestkeepers is free to any interested citizen, family or group. It is your choice alone to determine your level of involvement.

For more information, contact:

Missouri Forestkeepers Network
Forest ReLeaf of Missouri
4207 Lindel Blvd. Suite 300
Saint Louis, MO 63108

Missouri Timber Price Trends tracks market prices for Stumpage. Reports on the Stumpage Market are received from Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters and private consulting foresters. Stumpage refers to timber sold on the stump and does not reflect delivered mill prices. These reports should serve as a general guide to track stumpage prices. Landowners should not use this report to replace a timber inventory and marketing assistance as methods of conducting a sale. Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters will be able to provide information on current, local market conditions. Details of all private sales and delivered prices are kept confidential.



Missouri Department of Conservation Forestry Division Offices

MDC CENTRAL OFFICE573/751-4115

PO Box 180, Jefferson City 65102
 Lisa Allen, State Foresterx 3120
 Mike Hoffmann, Forest Management Chiefx 3307
 Mike Huffman, Forest Management Chiefx 3110

CENTRAL REGION573/884-6861

1907 Hillcrest Dr., Columbia 65201
 Tim French, Regional Supervisor x 229 573/882-8388
CALIFORNIA OFFICE
 410C W. Buchanan St., California 65018 573/796-0286
CAMDENTON OFFICE
 783 Thunder Mtn. Rd., Camdenton 65020 573/346-2210
FULTON OFFICE – NRCS Office
 4549 State Rd. H, Fulton 65251 573/592-1400
LINN OFFICE - USDA Service Center
 1315 E. Main St., Linn 65051 573/897-3797
NEW FRANKLIN – MU-HARC Office
 10 Research Ctr. Rd., New Franklin 65274 660/848-2525

KANSAS CITY816/655-6250

3424 NW Duncan Rd., Blue Springs 64015
 Mark Nelson, Regional Supervisor x 239 816/655-6254
BURR OAK WOODS NATURE CENTER
 1401 NW Park Rd., Blue Springs 64015 816/655-6263
CLINTON OFFICE 660/885-6981
 PO Box 368, Clinton 64735 660/885-8179
DISCOVERY CENTER 816/759-7300
 4750 Troost, Kansas City 64110 816/759-7305
ELDORADO SPRINGS OFFICE
 PO Box 106, El Dorado Springs 64744 417/876-5792
SEDALIA OFFICE
 2000 S. Limit, Sedalia 65301 660/530-5500

NORTHEAST660/785-2420

3500 S. Baltimore, Kirksville 63501
 George Clark, Regional Supervisor x 229 660/785-2424
HANNIBAL OFFICE
 653 Clinic Rd., Hannibal 63401 573/248-2530
KAHOKA OFFICE
 RR 1 Box 16A, Kahoka 63445 660/727-2955
MACON OFFICE – Mark Twain Water Quality
 2108 US Hwy. 63 Suite D, Macon 63552 660/385-6359
UNIONVILLE OFFICE
 28988 US Hwy. 136, Unionville 63565 660/947-2439

NORTHWEST816/271-3100

701 James McCarthy Dr., St. Joseph 64507
 Bryan Gragg, Regional Supervisor x 238 816/271-3111
ALBANY OFFICE
 508 E. Hwy. 136, Albany 64402 660/726-3746
CHILLICOTHE OFFICE
 15368 LIV 2386, Chillicothe 64601 660/646-6122

OZARK417/256-7161

PO Box 138, West Plains 65775
 Tom Draper, Regional Supervisor x 224 417/255-9561
ALTON OFFICE
 PO Box 181, Alton 65606 417/778-6594
AVA OFFICE
 HCR 71 Box 46, Ava 65608 417/683-3628

DONIPHAN OFFICE
 Route 8 Box 8118, Doniphan 63935 573/996-2557
EMINENCE OFFICE
 HCR 1 Box 177K, Eminence 65466 573/226-3616
HOUSTON OFFICE
 PO Box 246, Houston 65483 417/967-3385
ROLLA OFFICE
 125655 State Route Y, Rolla 65401 573/368-2225
SALEM OFFICE
 PO Box 386, Salem 65560 573/729-3182
VAN BUREN OFFICE
 PO Box 850, Van Buren 63965 573/323-8515

SOUTHEAST573/290-5730

2302 County Park Rd., Cape Girardeau 63701
 Joe Garvey, Regional Supervisor x 245 573/290-5858
ELLINGTON OFFICE
 Route 2 Box 198, Ellington 63638 573/663-7130
FARMINGTON OFFICE
 812 Progress Dr., Farmington 63640 573/756-6488
FREDERICKTOWN OFFICE
 1051 Madison CR 212, Fredericktown, 63645 573/783-7031
IRONTON OFFICE
 303 S. Main, Ironton 63650 573/546-6993
MARBLE HILL OFFICE
 Route 5 Box 129, Marble Hill 63764 573/238-2321
NEW MADRID OFFICE
 PO Box 131, New Madrid 63869 573/748-5134
PERRYVILLE OFFICE
 2206 W. St. Joseph, Perryville 63775 573/547-4537
PIEDMONT OFFICE
 Route 4 Box 1002, Piedmont 63957 573/223-4525
POPLAR BLUFF OFFICE
 107 Magazine Lane, Poplar Bluff 63901 573/840-9788

SOUTHWEST 417/895-6880

2630 N. Mayfair, Springfield 65803
 Tim Stanton, Regional Supervisor x 232 417/895-6881
BOLIVAR OFFICE
 412 S. Killingsworth, Bolivar 65613 417/326-5189
BRANSON OFFICE
 226 Claremont Dr., Branson 65616 417/334-3324
CASSVILLE OFFICE
 PO Box 607, Cassville 65625 417/847-5949
JOPLIN OFFICE
 705 S. Illinois, Ste. 6B Joplin 64801 417/629-3423
LEBANON FORESTRY OFFICE
 2350 S. Jefferson, Lebanon 65536 417/532-7612
NEOSHO OFFICE
 1510 S. US Hwy. 71, Neosho 64850 417/451-4158

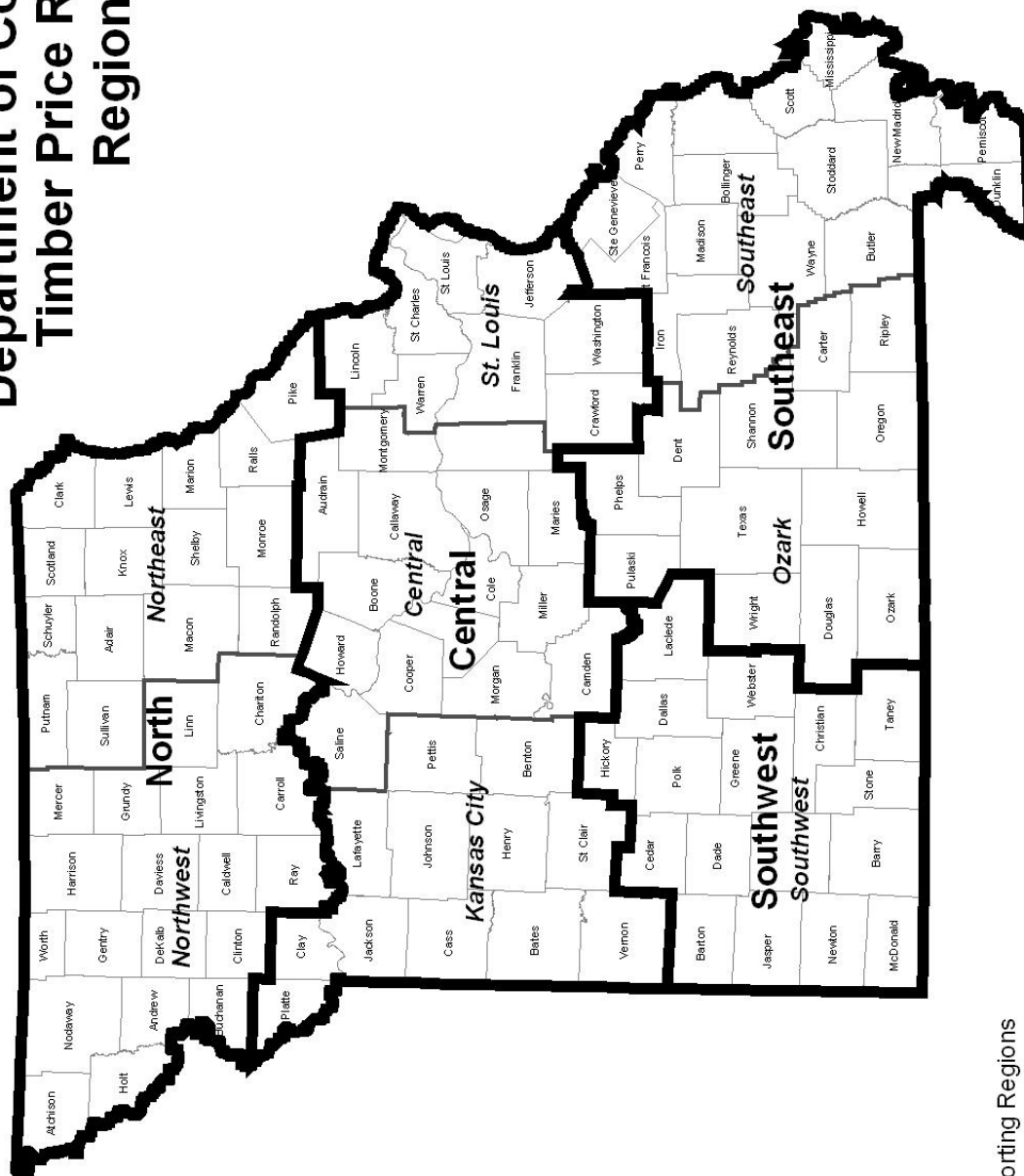
ST. LOUIS 636/441-4554

2360 Hwy. D, St. Charles 63304
 Cathy deJong, Regional Supervisor x 311 636/300-1953
POWDER VALLEY NATURE CENTER
 11715 Cragwold Rd., Kirkwood 63122 314/301-1506
ROCKWOODS OFFICE
 2751 Glencoe Rd., Wildwood 63038 636/458-2236
SULLIVAN OFFICE
 PO Box 248, Sullivan 63080 573/468-3335
WARRENTON OFFICE
 PO Box 157, Warrenton 63383 636/456-3368




GEORGE O. WHITE NURSERY 573/674-3229

14027 Shafer Rd., Licking 65542
 Greg Hoss, Supervisor x 22

Missouri Department of Conservation Timber Price Reporting Regions



Legend

-  Price Reporting Regions
-  MDC Regions
-  County Boundaries



Missouri Department of Conservation
Forestry Division
P.O. Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65109

Return Service Requested